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graphical slips are few (pp. 205 and 229). An occasional paragraph (p. 189) might be relegated to footnotes were they used. Something more expressive than doubt might be used to characterize the relations of the intendants with other local subordinates (p. 8) or to surmise about the humanity of colonial officials generally (p. 10). But these are minor discrepancies and should not lessen hearty appreciation of the many excellent features of the book. Through its scholarly pages American readers encounter in a new setting revolutionary principles that remind us of our own contest for political independence, albeit this contest manifests itself in leaders of unfamiliar type. That the deeds of a score of them may become more familiar is the aim of Mr. Robertson, and in this he has achieved marked success.

I. J. C.

Idealism and the modern age. By George Plimpton Adams, Ph.D., associate professor of philosophy, University of California. (New Haven: Yale university press, 1919. 253 p. \$2.50)

The curious historian must often ask himself in what light his work and achievements are regarded by scholars in other fields. To such a person *Idealism and the modern age* by George Plimpton Adams will be interesting because in it he will find the philosopher's estimate and evaluation of some of the dominant forces in history. A few quotations taken at random will prove illuminating. "To enter fully into the life of any historical community is to apprehend the past . . . this interest in the life of the past and in the study of history is significant . . . it is certainly different from a utilitarian interest in the past, a desire to use the experiences of the past in the solution of present difficulties. . . ." Here then is the "aesthetic" side of history which many an ardent apostle of the "new history" may well ponder on.

Stressing further the difference between history and kindred sciences, Mr. Adams says: "History seeks to envisage with insight and sympathy the individual. Its interest terminates in the individual, the other sciences are interested in individuals only as instances of types and laws. . . To insist, then, that the objects of our historical interest are really individuals and not universal laws or types is at the same time to emphasize the non-behavior and non-pragmatic character of the mind's interest in other minds, in the past, and in the historical life of communities." Even among the historians, Mr. Adams sees a division into two camps. "There is," he says, "a very familiar issue about the way in which historical events and achievements had best be interpreted, and the part taken by individuals in historical processes. There are historians who care nothing for institutions and there are those who

care not at all about individuals. There are those who believe that every significant historical change must have been somewhere initiated by an individual, and there are those who view the individual merely as one who seizes upon and utters forces which he finds already in existence and which he does not at all create."

The author is working with plastic material, seeking to apprehend the invisible currents which dominate and pervade the social structure. Religion, education, ethics, aesthetics, morality, all are laid beneath the microscope in an attempt to analyze and classify. And even as he writes, changes take place and the cataclysm of social currents sweeps on.

The Atlantic monthly and its makers. By M. A. DeWolfe Howe. (Boston: Atlantic monthly press, 1919. 106 p. \$1.00)

That Holmes named it; that Lowell called it his "old man of the sea" and was its first editor; that "The battle hymn of the republic," the "Commemoration ode," "A man without a country," first saw light in its pages — these facts and many others connected with the history of the *Atlantic monthly* few people know. From the days when the *Atlantic* was a family until today when it is a corporation, many names held dear to America's readers have been closely associated with its growth and progress. James Russell Lowell, James T. Fields, William Dean Howells, Thomas Bailey Aldrich, the editors of the magazine; Oliver Wendell Holmes, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Ralph Waldo Emerson, its contributors — it is bone of their bone and flesh of their flesh. Merging the goodly heritage of our grandfathers in the intellectual current of today, absorbing the New England tradition in the life of all America, broadening and widening its horizon until it touches the lives of thousands — thus have grown the *Atlantic monthly*.

With rare judgment and skill, easily as if he were recording the story of dear friends and intimates, M. A. DeWolfe Howe describes the *Atlantic monthly and its makers*. It makes delightful reading, the quotations are well selected, the woodcuts highly artistic. One closes the book with but one criticism — Mr. Howe has stopped too soon.

A. L.

Historic shrines of America. Being the story of one hundred and twenty historic buildings and the pioneers who made them notable. By John T. Faris. (New York: George H. Doran company, [1918]. 421 p. illustrated. \$3.00 net)

This book is frankly intended for popular consumption. As the foreword indicates, it is the author's design to stimulate patriotism by encouraging vacation tours to sites of historic interest in America, and it